



Complete Summary

TITLE

Epilepsy: the percentage of patients age 18 years and over on drug treatment for epilepsy who have been seizure free for the last 12 months recorded in the previous 15 months.

SOURCE(S)

British Medical Association (BMA) and NHS Employers. Quality and outcomes framework guidance for GMS contract 2009/10. London (UK): British Medical Association, National Health Service Confederation; 2009 Mar. 162 p.

Measure Domain

PRIMARY MEASURE DOMAIN

Outcome

The validity of measures depends on how they are built. By examining the key building blocks of a measure, you can assess its validity for your purpose. For more information, visit the [Measure Validity](#) page.

SECONDARY MEASURE DOMAIN

Does not apply to this measure

Brief Abstract

DESCRIPTION

This measure is used to assess the percentage of patients age 18 years and over on drug treatment for epilepsy who have been seizure free for the last 12 months recorded in the previous 15 months.

RATIONALE

Epilepsy is the most common serious neurological condition, affecting about 5 to 10 per 1000 of the population at any one time. Few epilepsies are preventable, but appropriate clinical management can enable most people with epilepsy to lead a full and productive life. For the purposes of the Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF), epilepsy is defined as 'recurrent unprovoked seizures.' This measure is one of four [Epilepsy](#) measures.

Seizure control gives some indication of how effective the management of epilepsy is. However, it is recognised that fit control is often under the influence of factors outside the general practitioner's control. It is expected that exception-reporting in the epilepsy data set will be more common than in other chronic conditions (e.g., for patients with forms of brain injury which mean that their fits cannot be controlled, patients who find the side effects of medication intolerable, etc.).

The top level of this indicator (see the "Prescriptive Standard" field in the Complete Summary) has been deliberately kept at a lower level in order to encourage general practitioners to record the frequency of convulsions as accurately as possible.

PRIMARY CLINICAL COMPONENT

Epilepsy; drug treatment; seizure control

DENOMINATOR DESCRIPTION

Patients age 18 years and over on drug treatment for epilepsy

NUMERATOR DESCRIPTION

Number of patients from the denominator who have been seizure free for the last 12 months recorded in the previous 15 months

Evidence Supporting the Measure

EVIDENCE SUPPORTING THE CRITERION OF QUALITY

- A formal consensus procedure involving experts in relevant clinical, methodological, and organizational sciences

Evidence Supporting Need for the Measure

NEED FOR THE MEASURE

Unspecified

State of Use of the Measure

STATE OF USE

Current routine use

CURRENT USE

Internal quality improvement
National reporting
Pay-for-performance

Application of Measure in its Current Use

CARE SETTING

Physician Group Practices/Clinics

PROFESSIONALS RESPONSIBLE FOR HEALTH CARE

Physicians

LOWEST LEVEL OF HEALTH CARE DELIVERY ADDRESSED

Group Clinical Practices

TARGET POPULATION AGE

Age greater than or equal to 18 years

TARGET POPULATION GENDER

Either male or female

STRATIFICATION BY VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Unspecified

Characteristics of the Primary Clinical Component

INCIDENCE/PREVALENCE

See the "Rationale" field.

ASSOCIATION WITH VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Unspecified

BURDEN OF ILLNESS

Unspecified

UTILIZATION

Unspecified

COSTS

Unspecified

Institute of Medicine National Healthcare Quality Report Categories

IOM CARE NEED

Living with Illness

IOM DOMAIN

Effectiveness

Data Collection for the Measure

CASE FINDING

Users of care only

DESCRIPTION OF CASE FINDING

Patients age 18 years and over on drug treatment for epilepsy*

***Note:** The Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF) includes the concept of exception reporting. This has been introduced to allow practices to pursue the quality improvement agenda and not be penalised, where, for example, patients do not attend for review, or where a medication cannot be prescribed due to a contraindication or side-effect.

The following criteria have been agreed for exception reporting:

- A. patients who have been recorded as refusing to attend review who have been invited on at least three occasions during the preceding twelve months
- B. patients for whom it is not appropriate to review the chronic disease parameters due to particular circumstances, e.g., terminal illness, extreme frailty
- C. patients newly diagnosed within the practice or who have recently registered with the practice, who should have measurements made within three months and delivery of clinical standards within nine months, e.g., blood pressure or cholesterol measurements within target levels
- D. patients who are on maximum tolerated doses of medication whose levels remain suboptimal
- E. patients for whom prescribing a medication is not clinically appropriate, e.g., those who have an allergy, another contraindication or have experienced an adverse reaction
- F. where a patient has not tolerated medication
- G. where a patient does not agree to investigation or treatment (informed dissent), and this has been recorded in their medical records
- H. where the patient has a supervening condition which makes treatment of their condition inappropriate, e.g., cholesterol reduction where the patient has liver disease
- I. where an investigative service or secondary care service is unavailable

Refer to the original measure documentation for further details.

DENOMINATOR SAMPLING FRAME

Patients associated with provider

DENOMINATOR INCLUSIONS/EXCLUSIONS

Inclusions

Patients age 18 years and over on drug treatment for epilepsy

Exclusions

See "Description of Case Finding" field for exception reporting.

RELATIONSHIP OF DENOMINATOR TO NUMERATOR

All cases in the denominator are equally eligible to appear in the numerator

DENOMINATOR (INDEX) EVENT

Clinical Condition

Therapeutic Intervention

DENOMINATOR TIME WINDOW

Time window is a single point in time

NUMERATOR INCLUSIONS/EXCLUSIONS

Inclusions

Number of patients from the denominator who have been seizure free for the last 12 months recorded in the previous 15 months

Exclusions

Unspecified

MEASURE RESULTS UNDER CONTROL OF HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS, ORGANIZATIONS AND/OR POLICYMAKERS

The measure results are somewhat or substantially under the control of the health care professionals, organizations and/or policymakers to whom the measure applies.

NUMERATOR TIME WINDOW

Fixed time period

DATA SOURCE

Medical record

Registry data

LEVEL OF DETERMINATION OF QUALITY

Not Individual Case

OUTCOME TYPE

Clinical Outcome

PRE-EXISTING INSTRUMENT USED

Unspecified

Computation of the Measure**SCORING**

Rate

INTERPRETATION OF SCORE

Better quality is associated with a higher score

ALLOWANCE FOR PATIENT FACTORS

Unspecified

STANDARD OF COMPARISON

External comparison at a point in time
Internal time comparison
Prescriptive standard

PRESCRIPTIVE STANDARD

Payment stages: 40-70%

EVIDENCE FOR PRESCRIPTIVE STANDARD

British Medical Association (BMA) and NHS Employers. Quality and outcomes framework guidance for GMS contract 2009/10. London (UK): British Medical Association, National Health Service Confederation; 2009 Mar. 162 p.

Evaluation of Measure Properties**EXTENT OF MEASURE TESTING**

Unspecified

Identifying Information**ORIGINAL TITLE**

Epilepsy 8. The percentage of patients age 18 and over on drug treatment for epilepsy who have been seizure free for the last 12 months recorded in the previous 15 months.

MEASURE COLLECTION

[Quality and Outcomes Framework Indicators](#)

MEASURE SET NAME

[Epilepsy](#)

DEVELOPER

British Medical Association
National Health Service (NHS) Confederation

FUNDING SOURCE(S)

The expert panel who developed the indicators were funded by the English Department of Health.

COMPOSITION OF THE GROUP THAT DEVELOPED THE MEASURE

The main indicator development group is based in the National Primary Care Research and Development Centre in the University of Manchester. They are: Professor Helen Lester, NPCRDC, MB, BCH, MD; Dr. Stephen Campbell, NPCRDC, PhD; Dr. Umesh Chauhan, NPCRDC, MB, BS, PhD.

Others involved in the development of individual indicators are: Professor Richard Hobbs, Dr. Richard McManus, Professor Jonathan Mant, Dr. Graham Martin, Professor Richard Baker, Dr. Keri Thomas, Professor Tony Kendrick, Professor Brendan Delaney, Professor Simon De Lusignan, Dr. Jonathan Graffy, Dr. Henry Smithson, Professor Sue Wilson, Professor Claire Goodman, Dr. Terry O'Neill, Dr. Philippa Matthews, Dr. Simon Griffin, Professor Eileen Kaner.

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES/OTHER POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None for the main indicator development group.

ENDORSER

National Health Service (NHS)

ADAPTATION

Measure was not adapted from another source.

RELEASE DATE

2004 Apr

REVISION DATE

2009 Mar

MEASURE STATUS

This is the current release of the measure.

This measure updates a previous version: British Medical Association (BMA), and NHS Employers. Quality and outcomes framework guidance for GMS contract 2008/09. London (UK): British Medical Association, National Health Service Confederation; 2008 Apr. 148 p.

SOURCE(S)

British Medical Association (BMA) and NHS Employers. Quality and outcomes framework guidance for GMS contract 2009/10. London (UK): British Medical Association, National Health Service Confederation; 2009 Mar. 162 p.

MEASURE AVAILABILITY

The individual measure, "Epilepsy 8. The Percentage of Patients Age 18 and Over on Drug Treatment for Epilepsy Who Have Been Seizure Free for the Last 12 Months Recorded in the Previous 15 Months," is published in the "Quality and Outcomes Framework Guidance." This document is available from the [British Medical Association Web site](#).

NQMC STATUS

This NQMC summary was completed by ECRI on May 22, 2006. The information was verified by the measure developer on August 11, 2006. This NQMC summary was updated by ECRI Institute on January 16, 2009. This NQMC summary was updated again by ECRI Institute on September 29, 2009. The information was verified by the measure developer on March 4, 2010.

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